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A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
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Week of February 10, 1986

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Week of February 10, 86

NUNEZ NAMED TO TOP POST
WITH LABOR DEPARTMENT IN DENVER

DENVER -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced the appointment of Jose C. Nunez as his regional representative for the Denver region.

As the secretary's regional representative, Nunez will offer assistance to groups affected by a wide range of Labor Department activities and maintain liaison with local, state and federal officials. The Denver region covers the six states of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.

Nunez is a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel with 20 years of service.

In announcing the appointment, Brock said: "Joe Nunez has had a distinguished career dealing with a wide variety of issues, and I am delighted that he will be using his abilities again on behalf of all workers in the Denver region."

Nunez, 48, is a native of Greeley, Colo. He is immediate past executive director and a former board member of the Latin American Research and Service Agency (LARASA), a Denver-based United Way agency.

At LARASA, he directed research analysis and dissemination of Census Bureau data on Hispanics and other minorities and administered a Labor Department program, Youth School-to-Work Project, in Denver.

Since his military discharge, Nunez has worked as an investigator for the Colorado Department of Labor, conducting investigations on suspected unemployment benefit fraud. As a self-employed contractor, he did investigations for insurance companies, law firms and the Colorado Workmen's Compensation Insurance Fund.

While in military service, Nunez held responsible and varied positions such as chief of a division where he directed human relations training, equal employment opportunity investigations and drug and alcohol training and rehabilitation programs for 26 organizations and 3,800 staff personnel.

He also served as executive officer for the Directorate of Counterintelligence and was a Congressional Liaison Officer with the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force.

From 1959 to 1974, Nunez was responsible for investigations into criminal and fraudulent activities, security matters and counterintelligence operations with the Office of Special Investigations.

Until his appointment, Nunez was state chair of the Colorado Republican National Hispanic Assembly, a post he had held since 1982. He was a member of the Colorado Republican National Party State Central Executive Committee, a delegate to the 1984 national and state Republican conventions, and chair of Hispanics for Reagan-Bush, Colorado, in 1984.

In addition, Nunez was appointed to the Department of Agriculture's national advisory committee on equal employment opportunty and to the National Council on Vocational Education.

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Nunez has a Master of Arts degree in education from the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. He is an honor graduate of the Institute of Foreign Language Studies (Japanese) from Yale University. He did graduate work at the University of Arizona, Tucson, and Bowie State College in Maryland.

Nunez is the recipient of numerous military decorations, including the Bronze Star, three Meritorious Service Medals, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross and National Defense Service Medal.

Nunez and his wife, Lilly, have four children from 22 to 16 years of age. Mrs. Nunez is a special assistant to the regional administrator of the Small Business Administration in Denver. The Nunezes live in Englewood, Colo.

# # #

Week of February 10, 1986

EARNINGS OF HISPANIC WOMEN LOWEST
AMONG NATION'S WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS

WASHINGTON -- Median weekly earnings for Hispanic women were $231 in the fourth quarter of 1985, making them the lowest paid among major groups of full-time wage and salary workers.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, median earnings for Hispanic men were $299, nearly matching the $307 earnings for black men.

In contrast, Hispanic women earned $231 weekly, compared with $255 for black women.

Among white workers, the median earnings were $424 for men and $287 for women.

The median weekly earnings for Hispanics ($271) were 74 percent as much as for whites ($364), while the median for blacks ($281) was 77 percent that of whites.

The median weekly earnings for women who worked full time were $283, or 69 percent of the $413 median for men.

Nationwide, the bureau reported that median weekly earnings for the nation's 77.3 million full-time wage and salary workers were $351 in the fourth quarter, 4.8 percent higher than a year earlier. These earnings exceeded the 3.5 percent rise in prices between the fourth quarters of 1984 and 1985 (as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers.)

Data on usual weekly earnings are collected in the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample of households in which respondents are asked how much each wage and salary worker usually earns per week.

Other fourth-quarter highlights are:

--Full-time earnings were highest for workers 35 to 54 years old (about $410) and lowest for teenagers ($181). Men's earnings peaked at about $490 in ages 35 to 54. Women's earnings peaked at $310 in ages 35 to 44.

--Among the broadest occupational groupings, workers employed in managerial and professional specialty occupations had the highest earnings--$493. Those in precision production, craft, and repair jobs were in second place, at $402. The lowest paid workers--at about $220--were in service jobs and in the farming, forestry, and fishing group. Women's earnings were highest among professional specialty jobs ($419), while men's were highest in executive, administrative, and managerial positions ($593).

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Table 1. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings			
			In current dollars		In constant (1977) dollars	
	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985
SEX AND AGE						
Total, 16 years and over	75,839	77,258	$335	$351	$193	$195
Men, 16 years and over	45,186	45,683	400	413	230	229
16 to 24 years	6,802	6,646	241	251	139	140
25 years and over	38,384	39,037	429	450	247	250
Women, 16 years and over	30,654	31,575	270	283	155	157
16 to 24 years	5,505	5,424	207	212	119	118
25 years and over	25,149	26,151	288	300	166	167
FAMILY RELATIONSHIP						
Husbands	30,455	30,489	440	464	253	258
Wives	16,400	16,719	277	289	159	160
Women who maintain families	4,133	4,263	271	288	156	160
Men who maintain families	1,304	1,347	391	393	225	219
Other persons in families:						
Men	5,853	6,007	239	249	138	139
Women	3,855	4,037	214	217	123	120
All other men 1/	7,575	7,838	372	388	214	216
All other women 1/	6,264	6,359	292	309	168	172
RACE, HISPANIC ORIGIN, AND SEX						
White	65,390	66,504	346	364	199	202
Men	39,630	40,027	409	424	236	235
Women	25,760	26,476	273	287	157	160
Black	8,230	8,535	273	281	157	156
Men	4,339	4,414	306	307	176	171
Women	3,911	4,122	247	255	142	142
Hispanic origin	(2)	5,289	(2)	271	(2)	151
Men	(2)	3,379	(2)	299	(2)	166
Women	(2)	1,910	(2)	231	(2)	128

1/ The majority of these persons are living alone or with nonrelatives. Also included are persons in married-couple families where the husband or wife is in the Armed Forces and persons in unrelated subfamilies.

2/ Data on Hispanic wage and salary earners for 1984 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.

NOTE: Data on median weekly earnings are now derived using $50 centered intervals rather than the $10 intervals previously used; data for 1984 have been recalculated. Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

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Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by age, race, Hispanic origin, and sex, fourth quarter 1985 averages, not seasonally adjusted

Age, race, and Hispanic origin	Total		Men		Women	
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings
TOTAL						
16 years and over	77,258	$351	45,683	$413	31,575	$283
16 to 24 years	12,070	230	6,646	251	5,424	212
16 to 19 years	1,855	181	1,059	190	796	170
20 to 24 years	10,215	245	5,588	268	4,628	221
25 years and over	65,187	383	39,037	450	26,151	300
25 to 54 years	56,397	382	33,634	448	22,763	301
25 to 34 years	25,049	351	14,919	395	10,129	299
35 to 44 years	19,111	407	11,329	492	7,782	310
45 to 54 years	12,237	406	7,385	493	4,852	294
55 years and over	8,790	386	5,403	464	3,387	290
55 to 64 years	7,904	391	4,832	477	3,071	292
65 years and over	887	319	571	387	316	272
White						
16 years and over	66,504	364	40,027	424	26,476	287
16 to 24 years	10,540	233	5,816	256	4,725	214
25 years and over	55,963	394	34,212	466	21,752	305
25 to 54 years	48,255	394	29,426	463	18,830	307
55 years and over	7,708	398	4,786	484	2,922	294
Black						
16 years and over	8,535	281	4,414	307	4,122	255
16 to 24 years	1,252	205	681	211	571	198
25 years and over	7,283	298	3,733	326	3,551	269
25 to 54 years	6,419	299	3,240	332	3,179	270
55 years and over	864	290	493	307	372	262
Hispanic origin						
16 years and over	5,289	271	3,379	299	1,910	231
16 to 24 years	1,042	204	678	211	364	191
25 years and over	4,247	293	2,701	320	1,546	244
25 to 54 years	3,804	294	2,417	321	1,387	245
55 years and over	443	277	284	304	158	239

NOTE: Data on median weekly earnings are now derived using $50 centered intervals rather than the $10 intervals previously used; data for 1984 have been recalculated. Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

# # #

Week of February 10, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $2.6 MILLION TO AID
DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 4 STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced a total of $2.6 million in grants to dislocated workers, including Hispanics and other minorities, in Georgia, Illinois, New York and Ohio, who are unemployed due to plant closings and the impact of foreign imports.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), and will provide the dislocated workers with re-training and other supportive services to re-enter the work force.

"This Administration is committed to assisting individuals who lost their jobs due to plant closings and other factors," Secretary Brock stated. "Through JTPA, we can provide the resources to help them adapt their skills and talents to the local job market," he said.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs will receive $1,000,000 to assist former Firestone tire and rubber workers in Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas and Worth counties. The project is primarily designed to provide job search and retraining.

The Illinois Department of Employment Security, in cooperation with Thornton Community College and Prairie State College, will receive $262,500 to aid workers in Allis-Chalmers Engine Division plant in Harvey, Illinois. This project will assist workers dislocated by the plant closure. They will be retrained for jobs in automotive services, building maintenance, electronics, hotel/restaurant services, security services and small business management. Other services provided include: counseling, job search assistance, job placement, classroom and on-the-job training.

The New York (Fulton, Montgomery and Schoharie Counties) Private Industry Council will receive $597,420 to help workers affected by mass layoffs at Coleco Industries and the reorganization of General Electric. Workers from the Nabisco, Industrial Knit, Mohasco Carpet, Mop Wringer, and 9 leather companies in the Mohawk Valley area were also affected by plant shutdowns. Job search assistance, classroom skill training and on-the-job training services will be provided.

The Youngstown Employment and Training Corporation will receive $771,671 to aid workers in the steel industry and other related industries in the Youngstown area. This project will complement existing employment and training activities currently provided. Workers will be trained for jobs in the manufacturing, food and hotel industries.

State and county job training centers in Georgia, Illinois, New York and Ohio will operate the projects.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition, or the permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of February 10, 1986

LABOR SECRETARY BROCK ANNOUNCES
$1.9 BILLION FOR JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced $1.9 billion in allotments to states for program year 1986 under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

In accordance with the 1986 Appropriations Act, the funds will provide states with the necessary resources to operate local training and employment programs for economically disadvantaged youth and adults, dislocated workers and those with special barriers to employment from July 1, 1986 through June 30, 1987.

"This Administration continues to provide the support needed to spur incentive and production in this nation's unemployed," Brock said. "JTPA provides the resources to help individuals adapt their talents and skills to the local job market. "

The $1.9 billion is authorized under Title II-A, Training for the Disadvantaged and Title III, the Dislocated Workers Program.

The funds reflect a reduction of $80.1 million for Title II-A and $4.3 million for Title III pursuant to the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation effective March 1. Allotments are determined according to unemployment in states on a formula basis.

Attached is a list of allocations based on amounts to states for both Title II-A and Title III.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR--EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
PY 1986 JTPA TITLE II-A ALLOTMENTS TO STATES
01-16-1986

	ALLOTMENT
Alabama	44,190,427
Alaska	4,896,374
Arizona	18,432,663
Arkansas	20,705,271
California	189,597,766
Colorado	17,145,259
Connecticut	13,010,234
Delaware	4,445,896
District of Columbia	6,536,638
Florida	62,193,069
Georgia	35,028,559
Hawaii	5,267,910
Idaho	7,591,996
Illinois	99,855,985
Indiana	45,011,399
Iowa	20,170,048
Kansas	9,123,311
Kentucky	33,518,050
Louisiana	47,399,691
Maine	7,322,534
Maryland	20,896,947
Massachusetts	27,706,317
Michigan	95,763,190
Minnesota	22,127,261
Mississippi	28,794,629
Missouri	33,249,122
Montana	6,219,205
Nebraska	5,902,071
Nevada	7,063,419
New Hampshire	4,445,896
New Jersey	39,729,869
New Mexico	11,703,739
New York	122,489,036
North Carolina	37,703,148
North Dakota	4,445,896
Ohio	91,248,345
Oklahoma	22,135,732
Oregon	26,486,869
Pennsylvania	97,823,589
Puerto Rico	71,395,175
Rhode Island	5,976,196
South Carolina	22,034,326
South Dakota	4,445,896
Tennessee	40,486,288
Texas	95,881,888
Utah	9,194,027
Vermont	4,445,896
Virginia	26,335,318
Washington	38,477,093
West Virginia	24,773,040
Wisconsin	33,039,814
Wyoming	4,445,896
American Samoa	268,028
Guam	1,125,402
Northern Marianas	125,000
Republic of Palau	493,081
Virgin Islands	1,560,271
NATIONAL TOTAL	1,781,930,000

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$1.9 BILLION - P.3

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR—EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
PY 1986 JTPA TITLE III
DISLOCATED WORKER PROGRAM
ALLOTMENTS AND MATCHING REQUIREMENTS
01-17-1986

	UNEMPL RATE	REDUCTION UNITS	ALLOTMENT	REQUIRED MATCH	TOTAL PROGRAM
Alabama	10.1	3	1,791,261	716,504	2,507,765
Alaska	9.7	3	203,625	81,450	285,075
Arizona	5.5	0	463,403	463,403	926,806
Arkansas	8.5	1	727,957	582,366	1,310,323
California	7.3	0	7,498,655	7,498,655	14,997,310
Colorado	5.7	0	617,150	617,150	1,234,300
Connecticut	4.8	0	448,820	448,820	897,640
Delaware	5.7	0	120,938	120,938	241,876
District of Columbia	8.5	1	247,314	197,851	445,165
Florida	6.2	0	2,091,224	2,091,224	4,182,448
Georgia	6.2	0	1,152,077	1,152,077	2,304,154
Hawaii	5.4	0	160,955	160,955	321,910
Idaho	7.6	1	266,605	213,284	479,889
Illinois	8.9	2	4,849,651	2,909,791	7,759,442
Indiana	8.5	1	2,155,476	1,724,381	3,879,857
Iowa	7.6	1	972,286	777,829	1,750,115
Kansas	4.9	0	376,208	376,208	752,416
Kentucky	8.7	2	1,473,002	883,801	2,356,803
Louisiana	10.9	4	2,074,758	414,952	2,489,710
Maine	5.7	0	221,505	221,505	443,010
Maryland	4.9	0	715,005	715,005	1,430,010
Massachusetts	4.0	0	695,198	695,198	1,390,396
Michigan	10.4	3	4,661,520	1,864,608	6,526,128
Minnesota	5.8	0	991,432	991,432	1,982,864
Mississippi	10.4	3	1,185,710	474,284	1,659,994
Missouri	6.9	0	1,401,627	1,401,627	2,803,254
Montana	7.1	0	236,353	236,353	472,706
Nebraska	4.8	0	223,515	223,515	447,030
Nevada	7.9	1	317,643	254,114	571,757
New Hampshire	4.4	0	116,624	116,624	233,248
New Jersey	5.7	0	1,541,909	1,541,909	3,083,818
New Mexico	8.0	1	416,356	333,085	749,441
New York	6.7	0	4,659,564	4,659,564	9,319,128
North Carolina	6.0	0	1,339,237	1,339,237	2,678,474
North Dakota	5.5	0	109,879	109,879	219,758
Ohio	8.9	2	4,644,816	2,786,890	7,431,706
Oklahoma	7.1	0	856,027	856,027	1,712,054
Oregon	9.5	2	1,176,882	470,753	1,647,635
Pennsylvania	8.3	1	4,473,632	3,578,906	8,052,538
Puerto Rico	21.5	14	2,087,835	0	2,087,835
Rhode Island	5.0	0	148,754	148,754	297,508
South Carolina	6.7	0	813,372	813,372	1,626,744
South Dakota	5.0	0	87,865	87,865	175,730
Tennessee	8.3	1	1,640,365	1,312,292	2,952,657
Texas	6.5	0	3,403,875	3,403,875	6,807,750
Utah	6.4	0	325,886	325,886	651,772
Vermont	4.9	0	70,665	70,665	141,330
Virginia	5.2	0	822,193	822,193	1,644,386
Washington	8.9	2	1,682,659	1,009,595	2,692,254
West Virginia	13.8	7	1,300,109	0	1,300,109
Wisconsin	7.0	0	1,416,655	1,416,655	2,833,310
Wyoming	6.3	0	110,694	110,694	221,388
American Samoa	0.0	0	10,789	0	10,789
Guam	0.0	0	45,302	0	45,302
Northern Marianas	0.0	0	5,032	0	5,032
Republic of Palau	0.0	0	19,343	0	19,343
Virgin Islands	0.0	0	62,808	0	62,808
National Reserve	0.0	0	23,925,000	0	23,925,000
NATIONAL TOTAL	7.4		95,655,000	53,824,000	149,479,000

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Week of February 10, 1986

LABOR SECRETARY BROCK ANNOUNCES PROPOSED $28.5 BILLION
IN LABOR DEPARTMENT BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL 1987

WASHINGTON -- President Reagan's fiscal 1987 budget request for the Department of Labor "is a balanced proposal that protects the interests of American workers," Labor Secretary William E. Brock said. "It also contributes to continued economic growth and stability by helping to reduce the federal deficit."

The department's proposed 1987 budget calls for $28.5 billion in budget authority and $23.2 billion in outlays.

The request includes $782.6 million in spending decreases for fiscal 1986; these decreases are either mandated by recent budget legislation or proposed as necessary economies.

Brock said the department's budget "reflects not only our awareness of the need for fiscal restraint, but also a number of reforms we can make to improve program effectiveness and to focus our resources more effectively on people in need of help."

Spending increases are proposed for a number of department programs. Included are an added $74 million for assistance to dislocated workers during fiscal 1986 and other increases, primarily in worker protection programs, during fiscal 1987.

Of the total $782.6 million in budget reductions for fiscal 1986, $362.6 million in cancelled spending authority will result from the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings (GRH) Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. The remainder of the fiscal 1986 spending decrease totals $420 million in requests to reduce enacted 1986 appropriations.

Major portions of the $420 million in Administration 1986 reduction requests include $208 million affecting the summer youth employment program and $196.5 million to begin a phasedown of the Job Corps.

Further fiscal 1986 reductions of $2.8 million are mandated as part of a governmentwide reduction in funds for advisory and assistance services under the Treasury-Postal Service Appropriations Act of 1986.

Major budget increases proposed by the President (for fiscal 1987 unless otherwise indicated) are as follows:

--A supplemental appropriation of $74 million to assist dislocated workers, especially those affected by increased imports, under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) in fiscal 1986.

--$20 million for JTPA pilot and demonstration projects to provide an expanded examination of labor market structural changes and of issues requiring national attention and coordination.

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--$10 million for JTPA research and evaluation to study and test new emerging strategies to address the training needs of target population groups, such as youths and dislocated workers.

--$10 million for unemployment insurance research and demonstration projects to provide for continuing and expanding research into alternative uses of unemployment compensation, to expedite the return of the potentially long-term unemployed to work.

--$4.2 million for the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to reduce backlogs in benefit administration, premium collection and sufficient and insufficient plan determination areas.

--$1.1 million for the department's Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration to begin work on developing a comprehensive Employee Retirement Income Security Act data base.

--$1.6 million for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to upgrade and replace equipment and supplies for occupational safety and health laboratories and for OSHA compliance officers.

--$1.3 million for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to update a longitudinal file of business establishments that would enable it to track employment change in firms over time.

--$2.1 million that will enable BLS to expand the Professional, Administrative, Technical and Clerical Pay Survey.

--$.8 million for the Office of the Solicitor and the Benefits Review Board to handle black lung claim backlogs.

--$1.0 million to enable the Solicitor to handle claim workloads under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

--$1.2 million to enable the Office of Inspector General to increase contract audit services.

Major budget decreases for fiscal 1987 are proposed as follows:

--$64.3 million for the Job Corps, reflecting decreased 1987 needs resulting from the phasedown starting in 1986 from 40,500 to 22,000 slots.

--$26 million for Trade Act retraining, job search and relocation assistance; no separate program is proposed in 1987, because the JTPA dislocated worker assistance program is being redirected to assure better, faster service to workers displaced by imports.

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--$4.8 million for BLS, related to elimination of the Permanent Mass Layoff and Plant Closings Program.

--$1.4 million for BLS, related to reducing sample detail in the Labor Market Information Program.

--$5.0 million in staff reductions because of the Job Corps phasedown, expiration of trade adjustment assistance legislation and the scaling back of Employment and Training Administration program monitoring.

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WEEK OF FEBRUARY 10, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The first combination of black workers occurred when chimney sweepers in Charleston, S.C., refused to work unless their price scale was met. Rather than being a strike against employers, this was a protest against price controls in 1763, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first organization of black workers was the American League of Colored Laborers, located in New York City in 1850, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first organization of white workers to advocate the creation of black labor unions and to allow blacks to attend its annual meetings was the National Labor Union in 1869, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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2/17/86

noticiasdelasemana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of February 17, 1986

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IN JANUARY, BLS REPORTS

HISPANIC FAMILIES EARNED $402 PER WEEK
IN FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985, STUDY SHOWS

HISPANIC ECONOMIST ENJOYS
SHARING CULTURAL TRADITIONS

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

L 1.20/7:

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Week of February 17, 1986

HISPANIC UNEMPLOYMENT RATE SHOWS LITTLE CHANGE IN JANUARY, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate of 10.1 percent for workers of Hispanic origin in January showed little change from the 10.4 percent rate in December, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Hispanic data for January have been revised to reflect revised population estimates used as controls for the households survey.

For blacks, the unemployment rate in January was 14.4 percent; for whites, 5.7 percent.

Nationally, employment rose in January and unemployment declined.

The overall unemployment rate fell from 6.8 to 6.6 percent, and the rate for civilian workers dropped from 6.9 to 6.7 percent.

The number of nonagricultural wage and salary jobs--as measured by the monthly survey of business establishments--rose by 565,000 in January, after seasonal adjustment, to 99.6 million. Civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--rose by about 400,000 over the month, after allowance is made for the effect of technical changes introduced in January in the procedure used for developing survey estimates. The proportion of the civilian population with jobs rose to a record 60.6 percent.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons edged down in January to 7.8 million, after seasonal adjustment, and the civilian unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point to 6.7 percent. Both measures have shown gradual improvement since last summer. The rate was at its lowest level since March of 1980. Jobless rates declined for adult men and whites over the month (both falling from 5.9 to 5.7 percent), while rates for adult women (6.1 percent), teenagers (18.4 percent), blacks (14.4 percent), Hispanics (10.1 percent), and most other worker groups were little changed from December.

The number of unemployed persons who had been seeking work for 27 weeks or longer--the very long-term unemployed--declined by 130,000 in January to 1.1 million. This group accounted for 14 percent of the jobless total. There was little change in either mean or median duration of joblessness, however. Among the reasons for unemployment categories, there were declines in the number of other job losers (those who do not expect recall) and labor force reentrants; these were offset partly by an increase in unemployment among job leavers.

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

After adjusting for the effect of the revised population estimates, civilian employment rose by 400,000 in January to 109.0 million, seasonally adjusted. (Employment normally falls markedly in January, and this year

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the decline was considerably less than usual, resulting in the large seasonally adjusted increase.) The employment-population ratio--the proportion of the civilian population with jobs--reached a record 60.6 percent in January, as there was a sharp increase in the ratio for men.

The civilian labor force stood at 116.8 million in January, not much different from the December level after allowance is made for the change in the estimation procedure. Over the year, the labor force grew by approximately 1.6 million (again, after adjustment).

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonagricultural payroll employment increased by 565,000 in January to 99.6 million, after seasonal adjustment. The January job count was 3.1 million above its year-earlier level.

In the service-producing sector, there were especially large seasonally adjusted increases in retail trade and services. Employment in retail trade, which had shown comparatively limited growth during the Christmas buying season, did not show as large a decline as usual in January and, after seasonal adjustment, rose by 205,000. The over-the-year increase, which is not affected by seasonality, totaled more than 800,000. Services continued its pattern of strong job growth with an additional 115,000 jobs in January; the over-the-year gain in this industry was a very robust 1.1 million. Elsewhere in the sector, there were over-the-month increases in transportation and public utilities, wholesale trade, and finance, insurance, and real estate.

In the goods-producing sector, construction employment did not experience as large a decline as it usually does in January. Buoyed by mild weather and strength in the housing industry, construction jobs rose by 155,000 to 4.9 million, seasonally adjusted. This development followed several months of little change. Mining employment was about unchanged in January.

Manufacturing jobs edged up in January, following increases in each of the prior 3 months. At 19.5 million, manufacturing employment was 135,000 less than the previous year's level, as there had been substantial declines between January and September 1985. This January, there were small over-the-month employment increases among many of the individual manufacturing industries.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

The average workweek of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls remained at 35.1 hours in January, after seasonal adjustment. Weekly hours in manufacturing edged down 0.1 hour to 40.9 hours, still a very high level. Factory overtime also decreased 0.1 hour, to 3.5 hours. (See table B-2.)

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on nonagricultural payrolls rose 0.8 percent to 119.0 (1977=100),

after seasonal adjustment. Following continuous advances since September, the manufacturing index was little changed in January.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly and weekly earnings declined 0.7 percent in January, seasonally adjusted. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings rose 2 cents to $8.74, while weekly earnings were down $4.54 to $303.28, a reflection of a drop in the workweek which is typical for this time of year. Over the past year, hourly earnings have risen 24 cents and weekly earnings $8.33.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 167.7 (1977=100) in January, seasonally adjusted, a decrease of 0.4 percent from December. For the 12 months ended in January, the increase was 2.9 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI decreased 0.5 percent during the 12-month period ended in December.

Changes in Household Data Series

Beginning with data for January 1986, revised population estimates used as controls for the household survey have been introduced. The revised procedure reflects estimates since 1980 of undocumented immigration (largely Hispanic) and emigration. This adjustment results in higher, more accurate levels for January, but it produces a break in series with data for prior periods. The effect of this change for the overall population was less than half of 1 percent. If revised population controls were applied to December data, the December-January increase would be 169,000 for the labor force and 397,000 for the employed. The level of unemployment would decline by 228,000. The unemployment rate is not affected by the change.

The revised procedure raises the levels of Hispanic labor force and employment counts by about 4 percent. Because of this large magnitude, BLS is revising data for this group, to the extent possible, back to January 1980. All Hispanic data in this release already have been revised.

The changes and their effect on estimates of labor force characteristics are described in "Changes in the Estimation Procedure in the Current Population Survey Beginning in January 1986," to appear in the February 1986 issue of Employment and Earnings.

NOTICIAS DE LA SEMANA - 2.17/86
EMPLOYMENT P.4

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted[1]					
	Jan. 1985	Dec. 1985	Jan. 1986	Jan. 1985	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1985	Nov. 1985	Dec. 1985	Jan. 1986
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	153,103	154,327	154,784	153,103	153,938	154,082	154,203	154,327	154,784
Civilian labor force	98,333	100,090	99,885	99,358	100,179	100,533	100,478	100,533	100,961
Participation rate	64.2	64.9	64.5	64.9	65.1	65.2	65.2	65.1	65.2
Employed	91,290	94,385	93,421	93,040	94,055	94,369	94,507	94,585	95,165
Employment-population ratio[2]	59.6	61.2	60.4	60.8	61.1	61.2	61.3	61.3	61.5
Unemployed	7,044	5,704	6,464	6,318	6,124	6,164	5,971	5,948	5,796
Unemployment rate	7.2	5.7	6.5	6.4	6.1	6.1	5.9	5.9	5.7
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	52,332	52,902	53,214	52,674	52,983	53,105	53,125	53,097	53,603
Participation rate	78.0	78.1	78.1	78.5	78.5	78.6	78.5	78.4	78.7
Employed	48,862	50,169	50,027	49,778	50,207	50,339	50,380	50,408	50,944
Employment-population ratio[2]	72.9	74.1	73.5	74.2	74.4	74.5	74.5	74.4	74.8
Unemployed	3,470	2,733	3,188	2,896	2,776	2,766	2,745	2,689	2,659
Unemployment rate	6.6	5.2	6.0	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	39,666	40,789	40,606	39,745	40,403	40,549	40,538	40,659	40,691
Participation rate	53.6	54.6	54.3	53.7	54.2	54.3	54.3	54.4	54.4
Employed	37,178	38,795	38,315	37,413	38,096	38,317	38,366	38,475	38,546
Employment-population ratio[2]	50.2	51.9	51.2	50.5	51.1	51.3	51.4	51.5	51.5
Unemployed	2,487	1,994	2,291	2,332	2,307	2,232	2,172	2,184	2,145
Unemployment rate	6.3	4.9	5.6	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.3
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	6,336	6,399	6,065	6,939	6,793	6,879	6,815	6,777	6,667
Participation rate	52.8	53.9	51.1	57.9	57.3	58.0	57.4	57.1	56.2
Employed	5,250	5,422	5,080	5,849	5,752	5,713	5,761	5,702	5,675
Employment-population ratio[2]	43.8	45.7	42.8	48.8	48.5	48.2	48.6	48.1	47.8
Unemployed	1,086	977	985	1,090	1,041	1,166	1,054	1,075	992
Unemployment rate	17.1	15.3	16.2	15.7	15.3	17.0	15.5	15.9	14.9
Men	18.8	17.1	17.3	16.1	16.2	18.5	15.8	16.2	14.7
Women	15.4	13.3	15.1	15.3	14.4	15.3	15.1	15.5	15.1
BLACK									
Civilian noninstitutional population	19,518	19,819	19,837	19,518	19,728	19,761	19,790	19,819	19,837
Civilian labor force	12,062	12,445	12,296	12,305	12,378	12,412	12,457	12,522	12,548
Participation rate	61.8	62.8	62.0	63.0	62.7	62.8	62.9	63.2	63.3
Employed	10,255	10,681	10,531	10,451	10,500	10,566	10,518	10,657	10,737
Employment-population ratio[2]	52.5	53.9	53.1	53.5	53.2	53.5	53.1	53.8	54.1
Unemployed	1,807	1,764	1,765	1,854	1,878	1,846	1,939	1,865	1,810
Unemployment rate	15.0	14.2	14.4	15.1	15.2	14.9	15.6	14.9	14.4
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	5,638	5,796	5,819	5,702	5,788	5,778	5,772	5,797	5,887
Participation rate	73.6	74.2	74.3	74.4	74.6	74.3	74.1	74.2	75.1
Employed	4,864	5,044	5,039	4,964	5,019	4,987	4,983	5,035	5,142
Employment-population ratio[2]	63.5	64.6	64.3	64.8	64.7	64.1	63.9	64.5	65.6
Unemployed	774	752	779	738	769	791	789	762	745
Unemployment rate	13.7	13.0	13.4	12.9	13.3	13.7	13.7	13.1	12.7
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	5,650	5,835	5,704	5,707	5,724	5,727	5,810	5,835	5,762
Participation rate	58.4	59.2	57.8	58.9	58.3	58.3	59.0	59.2	58.4
Employed	4,932	5,169	5,038	4,963	4,951	5,032	5,017	5,102	5,074
Employment-population ratio[2]	50.9	52.4	51.1	51.3	50.5	51.2	50.9	51.7	51.5
Unemployed	718	667	666	744	773	695	793	733	689
Unemployment rate	12.7	11.4	11.7	13.0	13.5	12.1	12.6	12.6	12.0
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	774	814	773	896	866	907	875	890	898
Participation rate	35.6	37.9	36.1	41.2	40.2	42.2	40.7	41.5	42.0
Employed	458	469	454	524	530	547	518	520	522
Employment-population ratio[2]	21.0	21.8	21.2	24.1	24.6	25.4	24.1	24.2	24.4
Unemployed	315	345	319	372	336	360	357	370	376
Unemployment rate	40.8	42.4	41.3	41.5	38.8	39.7	40.8	41.6	41.9
Men	44.9	43.4	42.4	43.9	41.1	41.0	45.2	41.0	41.3
Women	36.2	41.2	40.2	38.9	36.1	38.2	36.0	42.3	42.4
HISPANIC ORIGIN[3]									
Civilian noninstitutional population	11,716	12,111	12,148	11,716	12,004	12,040	12,075	12,111	12,148
Civilian labor force	7,415	7,694	7,688	7,506	7,844	7,854	7,782	7,772	7,787
Participation rate	63.3	63.5	63.3	64.1	65.3	65.2	64.4	64.2	64.1
Employed	6,554	6,923	6,830	6,713	7,026	6,982	6,953	6,962	6,998
Employment-population ratio[2]	55.9	57.2	56.2	57.3	58.5	58.0	57.6	57.5	57.6
Unemployed	861	772	857	793	818	872	829	810	789
Unemployment rate	11.6	10.0	11.2	10.6	10.4	11.1	10.7	10.4	10.1

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

[2] Civilian employment as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population.

[3] Data for 1985 and earlier years have been revised.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

# # #

Week of February 17, 1986

HISPANIC FAMILIES EARNED $402 PER WEEK
IN FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985, STUDY SHOWS

WASHINGTON -- Median weekly earnings among Hispanic families were $402 during the fourth quarter of 1985, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The $402 rate is not much different from the $378 median earnings reported for black families, both of which are considerably lower than the $558 earnings for white families.

According to the Labor Department's report on employment and earnings characteristics of families, other highlights for Hispanic families during the fourth quarter of 1985 are:

--Median weekly earnings of married-couple families were $438

--Median weekly earnings for families maintained by men were $353

--Median weekly earnings of families maintained by women were $284

Nationwide, BLS reported that nearly 60 percent of the mothers in families with children under 18 were employed in the fourth quarter of 1985.

While the total number of families with school or preschool children rose by 460,000 over the year, the number of employed mothers shot up by 765,000 to 18.2 million.

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NOTICIAS DE LA SEMANA - 2/17/86
FAMILIES P.2

Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	(2)	2,855	(2)	100.0	(2)	$402
One earner	(2)	1,418	(2)	49.7	(2)	265
Two or more earners	(2)	1,437	(2)	50.3	(2)	568
Married-couple families	(2)	2,169	(2)	100.0	(2)	438
One earner	(2)	995	(2)	45.8	(2)	278
Husband	(2)	843	(2)	38.5	(2)	292
Wife	(2)	99	(2)	4.5	(2)	(3)
Two or more earners	(2)	1,194	(2)	54.5	(2)	617
Husband and wife only	(2)	768	(2)	35.1	(2)	562
Families maintained by women	(2)	490	(2)	100.0	(2)	284
One earner	(2)	319	(2)	65.1	(2)	223
Two or more earners	(2)	171	(2)	34.9	(2)	444
Families maintained by men	(2)	175	(2)	100.0	(2)	353
One earner	(2)	104	(2)	59.1	(2)	263
Two or more earners	(2)	72	(2)	40.9	(2)	(3)

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data on Hispanic families for 1984 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.

[3] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Data on families for 1984 reflect revised editing and weighting procedures and may differ slightly from previously published data. Moreover, data on median weekly earnings are now derived using $50 centered intervals rather than the $10 intervals previously used; data for 1984 have been recalculated. Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

# # #

Week of February 17, 1986

HISPANIC ECONOMIST ENJOYS
SHARING CULTURAL TRADITIONS

WASHINGTON -- Department of Labor employee Teri Pena-Castro is equally at home with economics and the "cumbia."

Pena-Castro is an assistant economist with the department's Employment Standards Administration (ESA), and she delights in demonstrating the cumbia, a traditional folk dance from her native Colombia.

Her interpretation of the dance was one of the highlights of her agency's recent "ESA Awareness Week" which was conducted to make employees more aware of the responsibilities of ESA and the various programs it administers.

"The traditional folk dance always delighted me. I, like most children, watched and learned the dances with no formal training," Pena-Castro said.

"Music and dance," she added, "have helped overcome barriers and have helped strengthen understanding and appreciation of each other's culture and heritage."

She noted that "the cumbia," from the northern coast of Colombia, is a folk dance which combines Spanish, native Indian and African influences.

Deputy Under Secretary for Employment Standards Susan R. Meisinger said that activities during "ESA Awareness Week" would "help develop a sense of cohesiveness among ESA employees and help the agency be more efficient and responsive to the various publics we serve."

The people-oriented programs, which involved all employees from support staff to managers and supervisors, offered a history of the agency and an opportunity to learn and share experiences with fellow ESA employees.

Pena-Castro came to the United States 21 years ago and after jobs with the Organization of American States, an insurance company and the State of Maryland, joined the federal government as a clerk typist in 1975.

In 1978 she joined ESA's Office of Federal Contract Complicance Programs (OFCCP) as an equal employment specialist.

She has been with ESA's Office of State Liaison and Legislative Analysis since 1983, and has also worked as a program analyst.

She received her bachelor of science degree in economics from the University of Atlantico, Barranquilla, Colombia.

Meisinger also praised ESA employees for their participation and support of public service, including the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) and the Red Cross Blood Donor Program.

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Hispanics cited were:

--Val Veloz, of OFCCP, a canvasser for CFC, was recognized for his efforts which helped the Employment Standards Administration exceed its CFC goal by 10 percent, and earn the honor of being the agency with the highest participation rate in the Labor Department.

--Joe Perez, with ESA's Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation, was cited for his support of the Red Cross Blood Donor Program. Perez, who has donated more than three gallons of blood, was also praised for his recruitment efforts which have raised the participation rate of his office to "better than 25 percent."

Meisinger noted that the participation rate of ESA staffers supporting this life-saving program is 15 percent, compared to the national rate of 4 percent, making ESA a model government agency, according to the American Red Cross.

# # #

Week of February 17, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The first national black labor organization, the Colored National Labor Union, was created in 1869, according to "Labor Firsts in America, a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first state legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment on the basis of race, creed or color was the Ives-Quinn Act in 1945, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first black vice-president of the AFL-CIO was A. Phillip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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2/24/86

noticias de la semana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
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Week of February 24, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

MARTINEZ, DISABLED VIETNAM VETERAN, TO HEAD
FEDERAL PROGRAMS FOR VETS IN CALIFORNIA

PILOT PROJECT TO HELP YOUNG
HISPANIC WOMEN BECOME EMPLOYABLE

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--JANUARY 1986

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Week of February 24, 1986

MARTINEZ, DISABLED VIETNAM VETERAN, TO HEAD
FEDERAL PROGRAMS FOR VETS IN CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO -- Charles Martinez, a disabled Vietnam veteran and recipient of the Purple Heart, has been named director of the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) office in California, the U. S. Labor Department announced.

Martinez, 51, will direct a variety of federally funded programs specifically earmarked for veterans, including those under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and the Emergency Veterans Job Training Act.

The VETS office is at Room 2052, 800 Capitol Mall, Sacramento.

As state director, Martinez also will provide leadership and guidance to 11 assistants throughout the State of California in implementing veteran-related programs and services. California reportedly has the largest veteran population in the country.

Martinez said he is excited about the challenges of his new position, adding: "I am committed to providing the best priority service to all veterans in California, and to assuring that veterans are offered counseling, training and other services to help them enter into meaningful employment."

Before assuming his new position, Martinez was assistant state director for VETS in Sacramento, a post he held since joining the Labor Department in 1980.

After retiring with 23 years of service in the Marine Corps, Martinez joined the California Employment Development Department in Barstow, Calif., as a disabled veterans outreach program specialist. He served in this post from 1977 to 1980.

Martinez, who joined the Marine Corps after graduating from San Antonio Technical High School, San Antonio, Tex., retired as a first sergeant.

A 50 percent disabled veteran, he served two tours of duty in Vietnam where he sustained multi-fragmentary wounds in both arms and legs. In addition to the Purple Heart, Martinez received the Navy's Commendation Medal, the Vietnamese Cross for gallantry, and other military decorations.

From 1972 to 1975, Martinez commanded the Marine Security Guard unit at the American Embassy at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, where he met his wife, Maria.

Martinez and his wife have three children: Charles Jr., now in the Marine Corps; George, 12, and Christy, 9. The family lives in Citrus Heights, near Sacramento.

# # #

Week of February 24, 1986

PILOT PROJECT TO HELP YOUNG
HISPANIC WOMEN BECOME EMPLOYABLE

MIAMI -- A pilot project operated by the YWCA of Greater Miami and Dade County will help young women, including Hispanics, become employable.

Funded by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Labor Department, the project is open exclusively to women and will include participants from various ethnic, racial and cultural backgrounds, according to Maudest Jackson, project director.

Jackson said it is hoped that up to 50 percent of participants will be Hispanics.

The project will include young women, 16 to 21 years of age, who are high school dropouts, jobless, underemployed, or single heads of households.

Services offered will include counseling, remedial education, skills training, support services and referrals to other agencies for child care assistance, health consultations, and food procurment.

In addition to General Education Diploma (GED) training, life management courses and individual coaching will be offered, Jackson said, adding:

"We must help praticipants continue to want to achieve. Our goal is to see that each participant is employable when she leaves the program."

The program will also emphasize developing self-esteem through the use of role models, mentors, group sessions and extensive individual counseling.

The Miami project is one of two being conducted by the YWCA of the U.S.A. under a one-year, $150,000 contract with the Women's Bureau. A similar project is being conducted in Boston under the direction of Juanita Wade, executive director of the YWCA's Boston Branch. The contract runs through September 1986.

For more information about the Miami project, contact the YWCA center at (305) 377-8161

# # #

Week of February 24, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--JANUARY 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods dropped 0.7 percent seasonally adjusted from December 1985 to January 1986, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. The index had risen considerably in each month of the last quarter of 1985, following a period of virtually no net change from September 1984 through September 1985. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods also turned down in January, following three small monthly increases. Crude material prices fell 1.4 percent over the month, after decreasing by a smaller amount in December and climbing in each of the 3 months before that.

A dramatic downturn in prices for finished energy goods was responsible for most of the reversal in the Finished Goods Price Index in January. The consumer foods index also moved down, after substantial monthly advances at the end of 1985. Finished goods other than foods and energy eased down slightly, following an equally small rise in December.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved down 0.3 percent in January to 296.2 (1967=100). Over the year from January 1985 to January 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index increased 1.4 percent. During the same span, consumer food prices rose 0.4 percent, the index for finished energy goods moved down 1.0 percent, consumer goods other than foods and energy climbed 2.4 percent, and capital equipment prices advanced 2.2 percent. The intermediate goods index declined 0.7 percent over the 12 months ended in January 1986, while crude material prices dropped 5.5 percent.

# # #

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 24, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The first federal activity to promote fair employment practices was the Fair Employment Practice Commission in 1941, which sought to eliminate discrimination in hiring in the defense industry, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In 1869, the first national black labor organization was formed, the Colored National Labor Union, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first federal bureau to attempt to ease labor-related racial tensions caused by blacks leaving the South was the Division of Negro Economics, in the Department of Labor in 1918, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first state legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment on the basis of race, creed or color was the Ives-Quinn Act in New York in 1945, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

from the
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
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Week of March 3, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

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PUERTO RICANS HAVE HIGHEST
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REAL EARNINGS IN JANUARY 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Alaska
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Washington

Week of March 3, 1986

HISPANIC GROUP TO RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDS
TO HELP DISLOCATED WORKERS AT WISCONSIN PLANT

WASHINGTON -- La Raza Unida, Inc., of Jefferson, Wis., will receive $121,800 in federal funds to help workers dislocated by closing of the Thomas Industries plant in Fort Atkinson, Wis., Labor Secretary William E. Brock has announced.

About 80 workers will receive on-the-job and other training and services designed to help them obtain new employment, Brock said.

The grant was among 12 announced by Brock, totalling $7.1 million under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) to help dislocated workers in 10 states.

In making the announcement, Brock said:

"Helping individuals who lost their jobs due to prevailing economic conditions is a priority of this Administration. Through JTPA, we can provide the necessary resources to help them sharpen their talents and skills to meet the needs of the local job market.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been or are about to be laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or plant closings. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

La Raza Unida, Inc., is located at 207 East Racine, Jefferson, Wisc. Alfredo Luna is executive director of the organization.

# # #

Week of March 3, 1986

PUERTO RICANS HAVE HIGHEST
JOBLESS RATE AMONG HISPANICS

WASHINGTON -- Among workers of Hispanic origin, Puerto Ricans had the highest unemployment rate (13.9 percent) in 1985 while Cubans had the lowest rate (7.3 percent), the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

In 1984, the unemployment rate for Puerto Rican workers was 13.5 percent, for Cubans 7.9 percent.

The unemployment rate for workers of Mexican origin was 10.9 percent in 1985, the same as the previous year.

For other Hispanic origin workers, the jobless rate was 8.9 percent in 1985, compared with 9.7 percent the previous year.

These are some of the highlights in a publication of the department's Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Statistics of Employment in Perspective: Minority Workers" for the fourth quarter of 1985.

Data in the BLS report are from a sample survey of U.S. households conducted monthly by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The information obtained relates to the employment status of persons 16 years old and over in the civilian labor force.

The report stated that job growth slowed in 1985, particularly for minority workers, as the economy completed its third year of economic recovery from the 1981-82 recession.

# # #

Week of March 3, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--January 1986

NOTE: The Bureau of Labor Statistics currently is completing a major revision of the Consumer Price Index. Beginning with release of the CPI for January 1987 on February 27, the Bureau will introduce revised versions of the current CPI's both for All Urban Consumers and for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. The revised CPI's will reflect more current population and spending patterns and numerous technical enhancements.

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent before seasonal adjustment in January to a level of 328.4 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in January, the CPI-U increased 3.9 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.3 percent in January, prior to seasonal adjustment. The January 1986 CPI-W level of 324.3 (1967=100) was 3.7 percent higher than the index in January 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in January. This compares with increases of 0.6 and 0.4 percent in November and December, respectively, and is the same as the average monthly rate of advance since the fall of 1981. In January, smaller increases in the energy and food components, which had advanced substantially in the last 2 months of 1985, were largely responsible for the rise in the overall CPI being more moderate. A decline in clothing prices and a smaller increase in the cost of medical care also contributed to the slowdown. On the other hand, the entertainment and other goods and services components registered substantially larger increases in January than in recent months.

The food and beverage component rose 0.3 percent in January. Grocery store food prices also rose 0.3 percent in January, after registering increases of 0.8 percent in both November and December. A decline in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs and a smaller, but still substantial, increase in fruit and vegetable prices were responsible for the moderation. Beef prices, which had increased 6.0 percent in the fourth quarter of 1985, declined 0.9 percent in January. Prices for poultry and eggs also turned down in January, while pork prices were virtually unchanged. On the other hand, a sharp price increase was recorded for fish and seafood. The smaller increase in fruit and vegetable prices was attributable to a sharp deceleration in fresh vegetable prices, which were unchanged in January following seasonal adjustment. Fresh fruit prices registered their second consecutive large increase in January, while prices for processed fruits and vegetables--up 0.1 percent--continued their recent near-stable behavior. Among other grocery store foods, the indexes for cereal and bakery products and dairy products were up slightly while the other food at home component, reflecting a sharp increase in coffee prices, rose 0.6 percent. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.2 and 0.5 percent, respectively.

-more-

The housing component increased 0.3 percent in January, the same as in December. The deceleration in the cost of household fuels--unchanged in January, following a 0.4 percent increase in December--was offset by an acceleration in the charges for other utilities and public services. The other two major housing groups--shelter costs and household furnishings and operations--rose 0.4 and 0.1 percent, respectively, in January, the same as in December. Within fuels, a 1.3 percent decline in fuel oil prices was offset by increases of 0.6 and 0.1 percent in the indexes for electricity and natural gas, respectively. Shelter costs rose 0.4 percent, with renters' and homeowners' costs each up 0.3 percent, and maintenance and repair costs up 1.4 percent.

The transportation component advanced 0.5 percent in January, following a 0.4 percent increase in December. The moderation in transportation energy costs was more than offset by larger increases in public transportation fees, automobile insurance costs, and used car prices. Although pump prices declined, the index for gasoline rose 0.1 percent, after seasonal adjustment. This, however, compares with a 1.3 percent increase in the last 2 months in 1985. Despite these recent advances, gasoline prices remain well below--11.4 percent--their peak of March 1981. New car prices also rose less in January--up 0.1 percent--than in recent months and automobile finance charges registered a larger decline than in the preceding month. On the other hand, the index for public transportation, which was unchanged in December, rose 1.6 percent in January, largely reflecting sharp increases in intracity mass transit fees and intercity bus fares. Automobile insurance costs continued to increase sharply, advancing 1.8 percent in January after registering a 1.1 percent rise in December. In the past 12 months, these costs have increased 12.4 percent. Used car prices, which registered small increases in each of the past 3 months, advanced 0.6 percent in January.

The index for apparel and upkeep declined 0.3 percent in January, after registering no change in December. A 0.5 percent decline in clothing prices, reflecting larger than usual seasonal price reductions, was only partially offset by a 0.9 percent rise in charges for apparel services.

The January increase of 0.4 percent in the medical care component follows a 0.7 percent rise in December. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies --rose 0.8 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.4 percent, with the costs of professional services and hospital rooms up 0.1 and 0.7 percent, respectively.

The index for entertainment, which was unchanged in December, advanced 0.9 percent in January. This reflects a turnaround in the prices for all major entertainment commodity groups--reading materials, sporting goods and equipment, and toys, hobbies, and other entertainment commodities--coupled with a larger increase in charges for entertainment services.

The other goods and services components advanced 0.9 percent in January, after increasing 0.6 percent in December, largely as a result of a 1.6 percent increase in prices for tobacco products.

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) -- Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose 0.3 percent in January, the same as in the CPI-U.

# # #

Week of March 3, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN JANUARY 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings decreased 1.0 percent from December to January after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. This decrease stemmed from a 0.7 percent decrease in average hourly earnings and a 0.3 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). Average weekly hours were unchanged.

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 2.8 percent between January of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.8 percent increase in average hourly earnings. Average weekly hours were unchanged over the year. After adjustment for a 3.7 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings decreased 0.9 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $303.28 in January 1986, compared with $294.95 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power decreased by 0.7 percent from December to January. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI decreased by 0.9 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

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* The seasonally adjusted constant dollar series presented in this *
* release have been revised to reflect new seasonal adjustment factors *
* calculated for the CPI-W reflecting experience through 1985. *

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# # #

Week of March 3, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Under the Job Training Partnership Act, more than 2 million persons receive employment and training services each year, according to a fact sheet issued by the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

About 2,300 state employment service offices across the country make more than 3 million job placements annually, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

# # #

Minimum wage, overtime and child labor provisions of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act are enforced by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment Standards Administration.

# # #

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration issues and enforces workplace safety and health standards and provides and encourages use of training for workers and employers in safe workplace procedures.

# # #

The U.S. Department of Labor was created to help workers but its activities affect many other people, including employers, civil rights groups, other government agencies and the academic community, according to a Labor Department fact sheet.

# # #

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A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

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Week of March 10, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

GARCIA JOINS KANSAS CITY REGIONAL OFFICE
AS LABOR RELATIONS SPECIALIST

HISPANIC WOMEN MAKE GAINS IN JOB MARKET;
REMAIN LOWEST PAID AMONG ALL WOMEN

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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GARCIA JOINS KANSAS CITY REGIONAL OFFICE
AS LABOR RELATIONS SPECIALIST

KANSAS CITY -- Tom Garcia, 39, who began his federal career 10 years ago as a personnel management intern, has been selected for the position of labor relations specialist with the U.S. Labor Department's regional office in Kansas City, Mo.

In making the announcement, Gerald Dillon, head of the Labor Department's regional office of administration and management services in Kansas City, said that Garcia will serve as the department's management representative in dealing with Labor Department employee unions in the four-state region of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska.

As labor relations specialist, Garcia will provide advice and staff assistance to managers and supervisors on a full range of labor-management relations matters.

His principal duty will be to implement the department's internal labor-relations management program. He will also be the principal regional advisor regarding grievances, appeals of grievances, unfair labor practice charges and contract interpretations.

Garcia will also be responsible for assuring that the department's internal labor relations training program is provided managers and supervisors and that officials are briefed and advised regarding contract negotiations.

Before joining the Labor Department, Garcia served with the Office of Personnel Management for nearly six years, and for a year and a half with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, both in Kansas City.

He began his career as a civilian personnel management intern with the Army Aviation Systems Command in St. Louis in 1975.

Garcia received a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration from the University of Missouri at Kansas City in 1974. During his two years of Army service he advanced to the rank of Sergeant E-5.

Garcia has lived in the Kansas City area since he was 7 years of age, when the family moved here from Laredo.

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HISPANIC WOMEN MAKE GAINS IN JOB MARKET;
REMAIN LOWEST PAID AMONG ALL WOMEN

WASHINGTON -- Despite job gains during the last decade, the unemployment rate for Hispanic women remains about 3.5 percent above that for all women.

This is one item from a fact sheet issued by the U.S. Labor Department's Women Bureau, "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force." Other highlights include:

-- the unemployment rate for Hispanic women, 11.1 percent in 1984, fell by almost 2 percent during the last decade, but it remains about 3.5 percentage points above that for all women.

-- Cuban women have achieved the most significant reduction in unemployment. In 1976 their jobless rate was almost 1.5 percentage points higher than that for all women; by 1984 their rate had declined to almost 1 percentage point lower than that for all women (7.6 percent) and for all U.S. workers (7.5 percent).

-- Hispanic women have completed fewer years of school than all women, but this gap is narrowing primarily because younger Hispanic women are completing more years of school.

-- In March 1985, median years of school completed by Hispanic women in the labor force were 12.3, a slight increase over 12.1 years in 1975; median educational attainment of all women in the labor force was 12.8 years in 1985.

-- Although 21 percent of Hispanic women workers have completed 8 years or less of school, there is a continuing increase in the proportion of those who graduate from high school and those who complete college.

Free single copies of Fact Sheet No. 85-11, "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," are available from the Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor, 3rd & Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20210. A self-addressed envelope will expedite delivery.

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WEEK OF MARCH 10, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The first women's labor organization was one of maid servants in New York City in 1734, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first strike by federal government workers was by navy yard workers in Washington, D.C., in 1835, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first woman Secretary of Labor and the first woman cabinet officer was Frances Perkins. She was also the first Secretary of Labor to not belong to a union and the first to have a college education, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

The first state to create a permanent agency to mediate labor disputes was New York in 1886, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###